

AQF LEVEL	AQF LEVEL 9 CRITERIA – MASTERS DEGREE (COURSEWORK)	PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES
<b>PURPOSE</b>	The Masters Degree (Coursework) qualifies individuals who apply an advanced body of knowledge in a range of contexts for professional practice or scholarship and as a pathway for further learning	
<b>KNOWLEDGE</b>	Graduates of a Masters Degree (Coursework) will have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ a body of knowledge that includes the understanding of recent developments in a discipline and/or area of professional practice</li> <li>▪ knowledge of research principles and methods applicable to a field of work and or learning</li> </ul>	Graduates of the <b>Master of Dentistry</b> will have advanced knowledge and understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the scientific basis of dentistry, including the relevant biomedical and psychosocial sciences, the mechanisms of knowledge acquisition, scientific method and evaluation of evidence.</li> <li>▪ the selection of treatment options based on the best available information and the least invasive therapy necessary to achieve the appropriate and favourable outcome for the patient.</li> <li>▪ medical conditions and medications which can impact on oral health or make the provision of dental treatment unsafe.</li> <li>▪ the processes to search, retrieve and evaluate published research data related to the field of dentistry.</li> <li>▪ the processes to summarise published research and extrapolate conclusions to be implemented in everyday clinical practice, through a lifelong learning practice.</li> </ul>
<b>SKILLS</b>	Graduates of a Masters Degree (Coursework) will have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ cognitive skills to demonstrate mastery of theoretical knowledge and to reflect critically on theory and professional practice or scholarship</li> <li>▪ cognitive, technical and creative skills to investigate, analyse and synthesise complex information, problems, concepts and theories and to apply established theories to different bodies of knowledge or practice</li> <li>▪ cognitive, technical and creative skills to generate and evaluate complex ideas and concepts at an abstract level</li> </ul>	Graduates of the <b>Master of Dentistry</b> will have the skills to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ assess patients' medical, dental and social history.</li> <li>▪ identify possible risks due to patients' systemic, local or behavioural factors with regards to treatment and conduct a risk profile of each individual.</li> <li>▪ utilise critical thinking, problem-solving skills and emotional intelligence.</li> <li>▪ perform an examination appropriate to the patient.</li> <li>▪ communicate effectively, interactively and reflectively with patients and other health professionals.</li> <li>▪ design a comprehensive treatment plan which addresses the needs and expectations of the patient securing a predictable and sustainable health outcome.</li> <li>▪ inform the patient on his/her status and treatment options, including the potential risks and benefits expected and consequently decide together with the patient on the best available treatment plan.</li> </ul>

**APPLICATION OF KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ communication and technical research skills to justify and interpret theoretical propositions, methodologies, conclusions and professional decisions to specialist and non-specialist audiences</li> <li>▪ technical and communication skills to design, evaluate, implement, analyse and theorise about developments that contribute to professional practice or scholarship</li> </ul>	
<p>Graduates of a Masters Degree (Coursework) will demonstrate the application of knowledge and skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ with creativity and initiative to new situations in professional practice and/or for further learning</li> <li>▪ with high level personal autonomy and accountability</li> <li>▪ to plan and execute a substantial research-based project, capstone experience and/or piece of scholarship</li> </ul>	<p>Graduates of the <b>Master of Dentistry</b> will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ apply decision-making, clinical reasoning and judgment to develop a differential, provisional or definitive diagnosis by interpreting and correlating findings from the history, clinical and radiographic examination and other diagnostic tests, taking into account the social and cultural background of the patient and the longer term consequences on patients' oral and general health.</li> <li>▪ propose, discuss and agree treatment options that are sensitive to each patient's individual needs, goals and values, compatible with contemporary methods of treatment, and congruent with an appropriate oral health care philosophy.</li> <li>▪ evaluate systematically all treatment outcomes, including information on a patient's and/or patient's family/carer's satisfaction/dissatisfaction with treatment and providing and/or recommending additional action and planning for the maintenance of oral health; manage and evaluate psychological and behavioural factors impacting and impacted by dental and oral conditions.</li> <li>▪ prepare, implement and report on an evidenced based research project, leading to the completion of a manuscript for submission to a peer-reviewed journal.</li> </ul>